

Brookline Preservation Commission

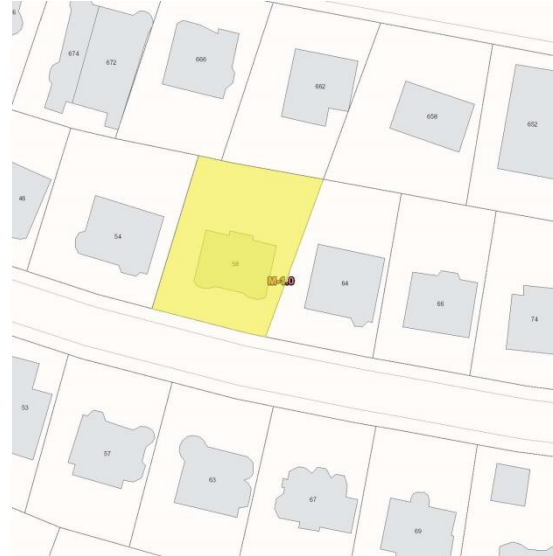
Demolition Application Report

Address: 58 University Road

Applicant: Ilya and Ellen Schiller

Building Type: House

National Register Listing (if Applicable): N/A



Historical/Architectural Significance:

58 University Road was permitted for construction in 1894. Designed by Alonzo G. Brewer, the first known owner of the house was Richard H Grogan. Grogan, an Irish immigrant who lived on St. Mary's Street, operated stables in Boston for years, and rented out the house on University Road. It appears after Grogan was widowed around 1918, he moved into the house at 58 University Road with his children, son in law, Harry Harris, and grandchildren. The family continued to reside in the house until 1965 when it was sold to Leonard Fein.

The 2 ½ story Colonial Revival style house consists of an unusual combination of brick on the lower story, and wood shingle on the upper story. The wood shingles flare out on its base over a course of dentils and modillions, which are also seen under the main and dormer roof's eaves. Center dormers project on all sides of the hip slate roof. The three bay façade features ornamental leaded glass seen in the entry door's side lights and transom, as well as the second floor. At an unknown date the front porch which encompasses the full width of the façade was renovated and its second floor balustrade and railing was removed.

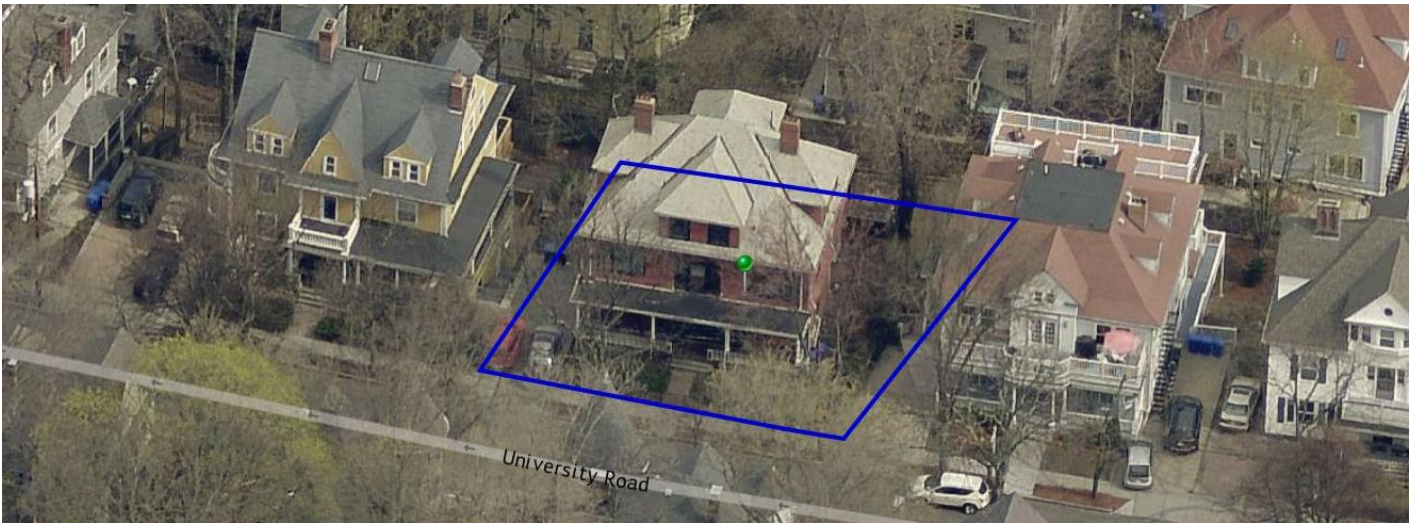
University Road was the last street to be laid out in Aspinwall Hill in 1892. A significant number of houses were constructed between 1893 and 1897, with many sharing similar characteristics and detailing; as well as a uniform front setback which is seen in the continuous street edge still evident today. Alonzo G. Brewer is listed as the architect for (16) of the residences on University Road, all built between 1893 and 1897. A native of New Brunswick, Canada, who came to the United States about 1872, directories describe Brewer as a builder and carpenter (from 1886) and later an architect and real estate broker (from 1895). By 1900, Brewer was a patient at the Massachusetts State Sanatorium at Rutland, a hospital for the treatment of consumptives, and apparently did not return to the Brookline area.

The house at 58 University Road meets the following criteria for an initial determination of significance:

c. The building is associated with one or more significant historic persons or events, or with the broad architectural, cultural, political, economic, or social history of the Town or Commonwealth; and

d. The building is historically or architecturally significant in terms of its period, style, method of construction, or its association with a significant architect or builder, either by itself or as part of a group of buildings.

The house at 58 University Road retains integrity of location, design, setting, feeling, materials, workmanship and association.



Aerial view of 58 University Road, looking north.



Aerial view of 58 University Road, looking east.



Aerial view 58 University Road, looking south.



Aerial view of 58 University Road, looking west



Photograph of the façade provided by the applicant



Photograph of the left side elevation provided by the applicant



Photograph of the rear provided by the applicant



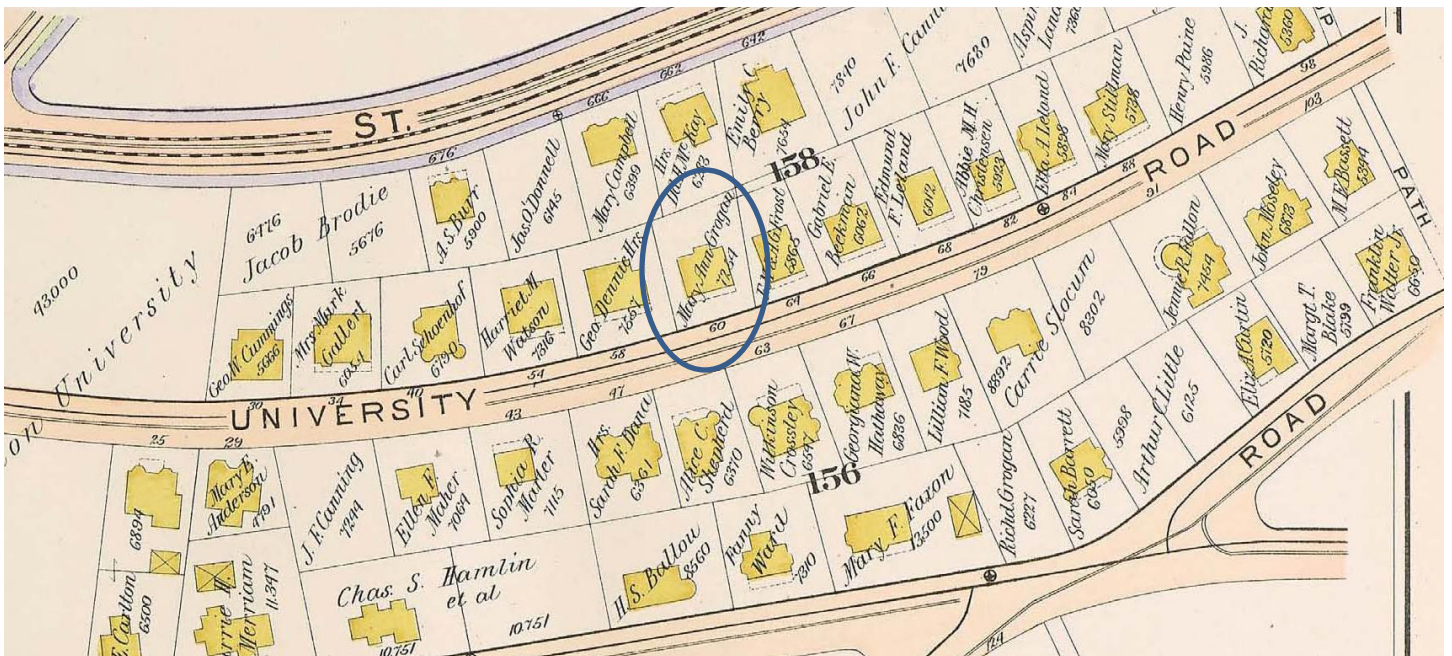
Photograph of the right side elevation provided by the applicant



Undated photograph of University Road looking towards Beacon Street with 58 University Road circled in blue



1893 Bromley Atlas



1900 Bromley Atlas